

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 02374 232141Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 CU-04

AID-05 OES-05 EB-07 COME-00 /086 W

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R 232032Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3687

UNCLAS PANAMA 2374

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PN, CU

SUBJ: CUBANS OFFICIALLY REOPEN OLD CHANCERY

1. WITH THE CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DIRECTOR OF LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS, CARLOS AMAT, IN TOWN FOR THE OCCASION, AMBASSADOR JOSE GARCIA BERTRAND ON APRIL 21 OFFICIALLY REOPENED THE OLD CUBAN CHANCERY IN CENTRAL PANAMA CITY. THE CUBAN MISSION HAS OCCUPIED TEMPORARY QUARTERS SINCE THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN AUGUST 1974.

2. IN HIS PREPARED REMARKS, AMBASSADOR GARCIA STRESSED THAT HIS MISSION WAS TO DEVELOP COMMERCIAL, ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL, AND CULTURAL AND SPORTS RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. NOTING THAT THE REOPENING CEREMONY CAME ON THE 14TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CUBAN VICTORY AT BAY OF PIGS, GARCIA ATTRIBUTED CUBA'S "PRESENCE" IN PANAMA TO TWO PRINCIPAL FACTORS; NAMELY, (1) THE "ARTIFICIAL" INTERRUPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS CAUSED BY THE U.S. (I.E., "THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR COMMON ILLS"), AND (2) THE EXISTENCE OF A NATIONALISTIC GOVERNMENT HEADED BY GENERAL TORRIJOS WHO, IN A GESTURE OF INDEPENDENCE, RE-ESTABLISHED RELATIONS. THE CEREMONY WAS ATTENDED BY FOREIGN MINISTER TACK, UNIVERSITY OF PANAMA RECTOR ESCOBAR, PANAMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

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JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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